

Message Text

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O R 192149Z JAN 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0056
NSC WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO RUQMBE AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 3291
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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USIAC

USIA FOR IOP/M, INA, IBS, IPS
SECSTATE FOR S/PRS AND PA
DEPT PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI
WHITE HOUSE FOR POWELL

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R)
SUBJECT: REMARKS TO THE PRESS BY SECSTATE VANCE AND P.M. BEGIN
FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING TOGETHER AT THE AMBASSADOR'S SUITE -

HILTON HOTEL, JERUSALEM, THURSDAY AFTERNOON,
JANUARY 19, 1978

1. P.M. BEGIN'S REMARKS:
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2. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND I JUST FINISHED
COVERSATION WITH SECRETARY OF STATE, MR. ATHERTON AND
WITH AMBASSADOR LEWIS. IT WAS ONE OF THE BEST TALKS. ALL
OF THEM ARE GOOD ONES BUT THIS WAS EVEN BETTER. TOMORROW
THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL GO TO CAIRO AND WILL SEE PRESIDENT
SADAT. THE SECRETARY WAS GRACIOUS ENOUGH TO TAKE IT UPON

HIMSELF TO TRY TO CONVINCE PRESIDENT SADAT THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE SHOULD BE RENEWED. AS FAR AS THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IS CONCERNED, FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW THEY ARE INTERTWINED, THE CABINET OF ISRAEL WILL TAKE THE PROPER DECISION AFTER WE ARE INFORMED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE RESULTS OF HIS TALKS IN CAIRO. WE HOPE THAT THE MISSION - VERY IMPORTANT MISSION OF THE SECRETARY IN CAIRO - WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. WE WISH HIM GODSPEED AND FULL SUCCESS. THANK YOU MR. SECRETARY.

3. SECSTATE VANCE'S REMARKS:

4. THANK YOU VERY MUCH MR. PRIME MINISTER. I APPRECIATE VERY MUCH YOUR KINDNESS IN COMING TODAY TO MEET WITH US. WE DID INDEED HAVE A VERY GOOD DISCUSSION OF THE SITUATION AND THE PLANS FOR THE FUTURE. I WILL BE REPORTING TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER AFTER MY TALKS TOMORROW, AND THEN WE SHALL DETERMINE HOW WE PROCEED FROM THERE. WE'D BE GLAD TO TAKE SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS.

5. Q: MR. VANCE, IN OTHER WORDS, FROM NOW ON, EVERYTHING IS UP TO PRESIDENT SADAT.

6. VANCE: NO, I WOULDN'T SAY THAT. WE FIRST WANT TO HEAR WHAT HE HAS TO SAY AND HEAR HIS VIEWS AS TO HOW WE SHOULD

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PROCEED. OF COURSE HE IS ONE OF THE PARTIES AND THIS IS FOR ALL OF THE PARTIES TO DECIDE.

7. Q: IF HE SAYS NO, THAT'S THE END OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE.

8. VANCE: WELL, I THINK YOU ARE JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS AT THIS POINT.

9. Q: DOES THAT MEAN YOU ARE COMING BACK HERE PERSONALLY, MR. SECRETARY?

10. VANCE: NO, I AM GOING TO BE GOING FROM CAIRO DIRECTLY TO ANKARA. I PROMISED TO SPEND A NIGHT AND PART OF TWO DAYS IN ANKARA ON MY WAY BACK TO THE UNITED STATES AND ALSO THE SAME IN ATHENS AND I SHALL BE GOING FROM ATHENS BACK. MR. ATHERTON IS GOING TO BE STAYING HERE ALONG WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR DELEGATION, AND AS I'VE SAID MANY TIMES ON MANY OCCASIONS BEFORE, THAT SHOULD IT BE USEFUL FOR ME TO COME BACK AGAIN AT ANY TIME, I'LL COME BACK.

11. Q: MR. SECRETARY, THE DURING THE TALKS HAVE YOU EXPLORED THE POSSIBILITY OF ANOTHER SUMMIT BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AND PRESIDENT SADAT OR EVEN MORE A POSSIBLE SUMMIT INVITING MR. BEGIN, MR. SADAT AND PRESIDENT CARTER?

12. VANCE: NO, WE HAVE NOT EXPLORED THAT AT THIS POINT.

13. Q: DO YOU THINK THAT WOULD BE A WORTHWHILE IDEA?

14. VANCE: WELL, I THINK THAT'S UP TO THE PRINCIPALS TO COMMENT ON.

15. Q: (INAUDIBLE - ADDRESSED TO P.M. BEGIN)

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15. BEGIN: IF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES INVITES ME TO COME TOWASHINGTON TO MEET HIM, I WILL WITH GRATITUDE ACCEPT HIS INVITATION. IF HE INVITES ME TO COME TO WASHINGTON TOGETHER WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL WILL BE THERE.

16. Q: MR. PRIME MINISTER, YOU JUST SAID THAT IF MR.SADAT WENT TO WASHINGTON AND IF YOU WERE INVITED BY PRESIDENT CARTER, THAT THERE WOULD BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF ISRAEL. DOES THAT MEAN...

17. BEGIN: NO, I SAID THE REPRESENTATIVE. I REPRESENT ISRAEL. (LAUGHTER) (COMMENT BY SEC. VANCE: GOOD FOR YOU.)

18. MR SECRETARY: SO THAT WE CAN GAUGE THE CHANCES OF RENEWING THESE TALKS, CAN YOU TELL US, HAVING SPOKEN, I KNOW, WITH THE PRESIDNET AND WITH OTHERS, WHY WERE THE TALKS BROKEN OFF?

19. VANCE: I DON'T REALLY FRANKLY KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION. PRESIDENT SADAT SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS THAT WITH ME TOMORROW, AND I'LL BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU A BETTER ANSWER TOMORROW.

20. Q: MR. BEGIN, I UNDERSTAND THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS INTERESTED IN SEEING THE MILITARY TALKS CONTINUE. THIS WAS HIS POSTION, IF I UNDERSTAND IT, IS THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO SEE THE POLITICAL TALKS CONTINUE AND WE HAVEN'T YET DECIDED ABOUT THE MILITARY TALKS. DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE RESUMPTION OF THE MILITARY TALKS IS DEPENDENT ON THE RESUMPTION OF THE POLITICAL TALKS?

21. BEGIN: WE RESERVED YESTERDAY THE DECISION WHICH WE
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WILL TAKE AFTER WE HEAR FROM THE SECRETARY AND PERHAPS ALSO WE SHALL HEAR PRESIDENT SADAT'S SPEECH ON SATURDAY. THERE WAS A PUBLICATION TO THE EFFECT THAT OUR DEFENSE MINISTER HAS BEEN INVITED TO COME TO CAIRO ON SHABBAT. WELL, WE DON'T TRAVEL ON SHABBAT. SO THIS IS EXCLUDED AND IN THE MEAN-TIME WE SHALL LISTEN TO THE SPEECH BY PRESIDENT SADAT. TOGETHER WE SHALL BE ABLE PERHAPS - I HAVE TO MAKE THIS RESERVATION - AT THE WEEKLY CABINET SESSION WHICH CONVENES USUALLY AT 10 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING ON SUNDAY TO TAKE A DECISION ABOUT OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE MILITARY COMMITTEE.

22. Q: MR. PRIME MINISTER WHAT DO YOU THINK THE UNITED STATES, WHAT DO YOU THINK AMERICAN COULD DO TO RESTORE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS?

23. BEGIN: YOU HEARD THE SECRETARY OF STATE. HE CAN DO MUCH, SO AMERICA WILL DO MUCH.

24. Q: BUT I WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK THE UNITED STATES COULD AND SHOULD DO TO RESTORE THE PROCESS.

25. BEGIN: I ALREADY SAID THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL GO TOMORROW TO CAIRO AND SPEAK TO SADAT. I THINK IT IS VERY MUCH INDEED. WE ONLY EXPECT GOOD RESULTS.

26. Q: (TRANSLATION OF QUESTION ASKED IN HEGREW): MR BEGIN, YOU STATED THIS AFTERNOON THAT ISRAEL

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NSC WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO RUQMBE AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 3292
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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HAS REACHED AGREEMENT ON FIVE ISSUES OUT OF SEVEN ON THE
FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THE AGENDA. COULD YOU INDICATE WHAT ARE
THE FIVE POINTS OF AGREEMENT?

27. BEGIN: THE NUMBERS ARE NOT SO IMPORTANT. WE EVEN
EXAMINED THEM TOGETHER, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY OF ISRAEL
AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE, AND OUR COLLEAGUES AND MYSELF,
THE DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES, AND WE FOUND THAT
REAL PROGRESS WAS MADE. SOME ISSUES ARE OUTSTANDING AND
SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS. WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE....MAY I BE ALLOWED
TO FINISH ANOTHER SENTENCE? I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE
ADVISABLE NOW, USEFUL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO GO
INTO THE DETAILS. WHAT I CAN SAY, AND THE SECRETARY
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WILL BEAR ME OUT (IS THAT) WE MADE REAL PROGRESS, AND
THERE ARE STILL SOME PROBLEMS TO NEGOTIATE ABOUT.

28. Q: MR. PRIME MINISTER, WOULD YOU PREFER THE
RESUMING OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE, OR WOULD YOU PREFER
A NEW, LESS PUBLIC, FRAMEWORK WOULD BE MORE ADVISABLE?

29. BEGIN: THERE IS NO NEED TO LOOK FOR NEW FORMULAS.
THE FORMULA OF A POLITICAL COMMITTEE AND A MILITARY
COMMITTEE WHICH MET WITH MR.SADAT'S APPROVAL IN
ISMAILIA IS VERY REASONABLE. WE HAVE POLITICAL PROBLEMS.
WE HAVE SECURITY PROBLEMS, I.E. MILITARY PROBLEMS.
THEREFORE, WE HAVE ESTABLISHED THE TWO COMMITTEES, AND
BOTH SHOULD BE RESUMED.

30. MR. SECRETARY, BOTH YOU AND THE PRIME MINISTER CATEGORIZED
THE TALKS THIS AFTERNOON AS GOOD AND VERY GOOD. WHAT WAS SO
GOOD ABOUT THEM?

31. VANCE: WE WENT INTO THE VARIOUS ISSUES WHICH HAVE TO

BE CONSIDERED AND DETERMINED. WE EXPLORED THEM IN DEPTH. WE FOUND A GREAT DEAL OF AGREEMENT ON THESE ISSUES, AND THERE WAS A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, AND I CONSIDERED THEM TO BE VERY GOOD TALKS.

32. Q: MR. SECRETARY, THE ATMOSPHERE TO MANY OBSERVERS SEEM STRAINED HERE. THERE'VE BEEN SUGGESTIONS THAT IMPROPER SPEECHES HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE WRONG PLACE AND THAT GUESTS OF THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT ARE SAYING THINGS THAT MAYBE THEY SHOULDN'T SAY. I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR ESTIMATE OF THE SOCIAL NICETIES WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE WAY YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BEING WITHDRAWN? WERE UNCLASSIFIED

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YOU INFORMED IN A PROPER WAY?

33. VANCE: I FOUND OUT BY SOMEBODY TELLING ME THAT THERE HAD JUST BEEN REPORTED OVER THE RADIO THAT THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION OF EGYPT HAD SAID THAT THE DELEGATION WAS BEING CALLED BACK TO CAIRO. I REALLY DON'T WANT TO COMMENT ON WHETHER THAT WAS APPROPRIATE OR NOT. LET ME SAY I THINK WE HAVE JUST GOT TO KEEP OUR EYE ON THE TASK THAT WE REALLY ALL HAVE AHEAD OF US AND THAT IS TO GET THE TALKS GOING AGAIN AND TRY AND FIND A SOLUTION.

34. Q: MR. BEGIN, YOU MADE A VERY STRONG SPEECH TODAY. DO YOU THINK THIS IS THE TIME FOR STRONG SPEECHES?

35. BEGIN: WELL, IF IT WAS A STRONG SPEECH, IT MEANS THAT IT WAS A GOOD SPEECH, AND THIS IS THE TIME FOR GOOD SPEECHES.

36. Q: MR. SECRETARY, CAN YOU TELL US WHAT YOU WILL SAY TO PRESIDENT SADAT THAT COULD MAKE HIM REVERSE HIS POSITION?

37. VANCE: YOU KNOW I CAN'T ANSWER THAT QUESTION AND IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR ME TO DO IT. I REALLY CAN'T.

38. Q: MR. SECRETARY, DO YOU SEE THE POSSIBILITY THAT A NEW FRAMEWORK OTHER THAN THE EXISTING POLITICAL AND MILITARY COMMITTEES COULD BE DECIDED UPON IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE TALKS? SOME OTHER FRAMEWORK?

39. VANCE: WELL, THE TWO COMMITTEES STILL EXIST. THERE HAS BEEN A SUGGESTION THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE RESUME ITS DISCUSSIONS ON SUNDAY OR MONDAY OF NEXT WEEK. THAT'S A DECISION WHICH HAS TO BE TAKEN. INsofar AS THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE IS CONCERNED, WHEN THE FOREIGN MINISTER

LEFT YESTERDAY, HE INDICATED THAT HE DID NOT CONSIDER
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THE TALKS BROKEN OFF NOR THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE
DISSOLVED; SO THEY BOTH STILL EXIST.

40. Q: DO YOU SEE ANOTHER FRAMEWORK POSSIBLE AT THIS
POINT?

41. VANCE: ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN BUT I THINK WE'VE
GOT THESE TWO AND I THINK YOU OUGHT TO DEAL WITH THE
TWO WE'VE GOT.

42. Q: INCLUDING YOUR SHUTTTLING BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN
THE TWO CAPITALS?

43. VANCE: WELL, I DON'T SEE THAT IS NEEDED AT THIS
POINT. I'M GOING TO TAKE THIS ONE TRIP AND I SAID IF I HAVE
TO COME BACK, I WILL.

44. Q: ON THE STATUS OF THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES,
WAS THERE ADDITIONAL WORK DONE BETWEEN YOURSELF AND THE
PRIME MINISTER ON THAT DOCUMENT SO THAT WHEN YOU GO DM
SEE MR. SADAT, YOU CAN INFORM HIM OF THE SITUATION
WHERE, AT LEAST AS FAR AS ISRAEL IS CONCERNED, IT COULD
ACCEPT SOME IDEAS PUT FORTH BY THE UNITED STATES ON
THE REMAINING PROBLEMS?

45. VANCE: WE HAD FURHTER DISCUSSION ABOUT THAT
DOCUMENT. ANY ULTIMATE DECISION, OF COURSE WILL HAVE
TO BE A DECISION TAKEN BY THE ISRAELI CABINET WHEN THERE IS
SUCH A DOCUMENT AND THE SAME THING WOULD BE TRUE OF EGYPT.
ANY DECISION WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY THE PRESIDENT OF
EGYPT.

46. Q: MR. PRIME MINISTER, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK A PERSONAL
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QUESTION WHICH IS NOT OF STRICT REFERENCE TO POLITICS.
WOULD YOU EVER THINK FOR A SECOND THIS AFTERNOON, WHILE
YOU WERE DELIVERING THE SPEECH, THAT PRESIDENT SADAT WAS ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF THE TELEVISION JUST STARING AT YOU AND TRYING
TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS BEHIND YOUR WORDS.

47. BEGIN: YOU KOW WHEN I MAKE A SPEECH, I THINK ABOUT
THE SPEECH. AND THE AUDIENCE IS VAST* AND OF COURSE I

ALWAYS BEAR IN MIND THAT PEOPLE LISTEN TO MY SPEECHES.
I THINK IT WAS A GOOD AND CONSTRUCTIVE SPEECH. THIS
IS MY OPINION AND MY CONVICTION.

48. Q: MR. PRIME MINISTER, MAY I ASK YOU A QUESTION. DO
YOU IN ANY WAY FEEL THAT THE PUBLIC DIALOGUE BETWEEN
YOU AND PRESIDENT SADAT AS MANIFESTED IN YOUR SPEECHES
HAS HAMPERED NEGOTIATIONS IN EITHER OF THE TWO COMMITTEES.

49. BEGIN: WELL, I HAD A LONG DISCUSSION ON THIS WITH
THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF EGYPT YESTERDAY WHEN HE CAME
TO SEE ME. WE SAT TOGETHER FOR SOME 75 MINUTES, AND
WE REALLY DISCUSSED THIS PROBLE. I DON'T WANT NOW TO
GO INTO DETAILS BUT YOU SHOULD REMEBER AS, THE FACTS GO,
THAT SUDDENLY THERE APPEARED AN ARTICLE IN THE EGYPTIAN
PRESS WITH SOME NAME-CALLING, WHICH I DON'T WANT TO REPEAT.
AND, OF COURSE, IT HURTS. THEN THERE APPEARED AN ARTICLE
IN WHICH WE WERE THREATENED WITH ANOTHER OCTOBER. AS
YOU REMEMBER, TO EVERYBODY CONCERNED, NOT TO THREATEN
US AT ALL, BECAUSE WAR THREATS CANNOT INFLUENCE OUR
ATTITUDE. NOBODY FRIGHTENS US WITH THREATSN OTHERWISE

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WHERE ARE WE GOING. THIS IS THE ATTITUDE OF THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL. WE WANT TO NEGOTIATE, WE PRODUCED A PEACE PLAN, A POSITIVE PLAN, WE HEARD THE MOST COMPLIMENTARY ADJECTIVES ABOUT OUR PLAN IN THE UNITED STATE, IN GREAT BRITAIN, ELSEWHERE. AND ON THIS WE PROVED HERE OUR GOOD WILL. AND THEN SUDDENLY WE HEAR THREATS, SO WE DIDN'T GO INTO POLEMICS. WE ONLY APPEALED NOT TO ISSUE SUCH THREATS. THEN, IN FACT THERE WAS AN INTERVIEW GIVEN BY PRESIDENTS SADAT TO THE WEEKLY, CALLED OCTOBER, WHICH WAS ALSO VERY REGRETABLE. AND AGAIN WE DIDN'T WANT TO GO INTO POLEMICS. YES, ULTIMATELY THAT WHEN WE HEAR A GUEST SAYING THAT WE MUST GIVE UP OUR CAPITAL CITY, THE HEART OF OUR PEOPLE, OF COURSE IT WAS NOT ONLY OUR RIGHT
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BUT OUR DUTY TO TELL HIM WHAT WE THINK ABOUT IT, AT THE PROPER PLACE, AT THE PROPER MOMENT. SO THIS IS THE ACTUAL DEVELOPMENT. TIME AND AGAIN WE SUGGESTED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN A CALM ATMOSPHERE. TIME AND AGAIN ON AMERICAN TELEVISION YOU HEARD ME SEVERAL TIMES. NOW AS THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT ISSUED ITS STATEMENT YESTERDAY, WHICH I READ, IT IS VERY, MAY I SAY, EXTREME STATEMENT. I SUGGEST TO YOU TO READ IT. OF COURSE OUR GOVERNMENT HAD TO ISSUE ITS STATEMENT AND TO PUT THE POSITION CLEAR. YES, TODAY I SPOKE TO A DELEGATION FROM FRANCE. IT WAS AFTER THE DISRUPTION OF THE TALKS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMITTEE, OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE, AND I HAD TO MAKE A STATEMENT. IT WAS A PUBLIC MEETING, AND I DID MY BEST. AS FAR AS THE FUTURE IS CONCERNED, I CAN ASSURE YOU FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, IF THE SECRETARY IS SUCCESSFUL IN CONVINCING PRESIDENT SADAT THAT BOTH COMMITTEES SHOULD RENEW NEGOTIATIONS AND WE CONTINUE, WE SHALL THEN BE PREPARED TO REFRAIN FROM ANY PUBLIC STATEMENT. OF COURSE, ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY, AND LET THE TWO COMMITTEES IN CALM ATMOSPHERE, NEGOTIATE.

50. Q: MR. SECRETARY, AS A MEDIATOR, AN ARBITRATOR, WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE BASIC PROBLEM LIES IN THE FACT THAT YOU'RE DEALING ON ONE HAND WITH AN EMOTIONAL PEOPLE, ON THE OTHER HAND WITH A PRAGMATIC PEOPLE. IN OTHER WORDS, ON THE ONE SIDE ONE THAT CAN BE SWEEPED BY A DRAMATIC PEACE INITIATIVE; ON THE OTHER SIDE ONE THAT SAYS: "NO, WAIT A MINUTE. WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ACTUALLY?"

51. VANCE: NO, I WOULDN'T CHARACTERIZE IT THAT WAY. I

THINK THAT THE DIFFICULTY IS THAT WE ARE DEALING WITH
VERY DIFFICULT AND DEEP SEEDED ISSUES THAT ARE VERY HARD
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TO RECONCILE, AAND THAT IS THE PROBLEM. ONE HAS TO FIND
THE BRIDGE BETWEEN THE POSITIONS ON THESE VERY TOUGH
ISSUES.

52. Q: MR. BEGIN, DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE A NATIONAL CONSENSUS
IN FAVOR OF MAINTAINING THESE SETTLEMENTS IN NORTH-EASTERN
SIANI THE WAY YOU HAVE A CONSENSUS AGAINST THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A PALESTINIAN STATE?

53. BEGIN: LIKE IS SAID, IT IS A NATIONAL CONSENSUS
THAT THESE SETTLEMENTS CANNOT BE REMOVED, AND I THINK
I CAN ALSO SAY THAT IN THE PRSENCE OF MY COLLEAGUE,
THE FOREIGN MINISTER, THAT ANY GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL,
WHICH WOULD TAKE A DECISION TO REMOVE THE SETTLEMENTS,
WOULD FALL IN PARLIAMENT, WOULD HAVE A VOTE OF NO
CONFIDENCE. AND AS WE WANT TO CONTINUE WITH OUR
SERVICE, SO WE TOLD OPENLY, AS I SAID TO PRESIDENT
SADAT AT ISMAILIA, THE SETTLEMENTS HAVE TO STAY AND
WE HAVE A PRINCIPLE THAT WE HAVE TO GIVE JEWISH
SETTLEMENTS ISRAELI DEFENSE. THAT IS WHAT I SAID TO
PRESIDENT SADAT AT ISMAILIA, HE HEARD IT FROM ME AND
WAS TAKING THE MINUTES. I CAN INFORM YOU ABOUT MY
STATEMENT. OF COURSE I CANNOT TELL YOU WHAT PRESIDENT
SADAT SAID. IT IS UP TO HIM. I WILL NOT DIVULGE OUR
PRIVATE TALK FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW.

54. Q: MR. BEGIN...IN ALL THE FORUMS THAT HAVE TAKEN
PLACE SINCE PRESIDENT SADAT CAME TO JERUSALEM, HE WAS
REMARKABLE CONSISTENT. HE HAS SAID THE PRICE OF PEACE
IS ISRAELI ACCEPTANCE OF ALL HIS DEMANDS, NOTABLY THE
RETURN OF ALL ARAB LAND INCLUDING EAST JERUSALEM,
A PALESTINIAN STATE, ETC. DO YOU HAVE ANY REASON TO
BELIEVE THAT SADAT DOESN'T MEAN EXACTLY WHAT HE SAID?

55. BEGIN: WHY SHOULD I? BUT I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND
YOU THAT THE DAY BEFORE PRESIDENT SADAT ARRIVED HERE,
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EXCUSE ME, SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE HE ARRIVED HERE, HE MADE
THAT STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW
FROM ALL THE TERRITORIES, AS THE NAME GOES, AND AGREE TO
A PALESTINIAN STATE TO BE FORMED, IN MY LANGUAGE, IN

JUEA, SAMARIAN AND THEGAZA DISTRICT. AND I ANSWERED HIM THAT BOTH DEMANDS ARE ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE BY ISRAEL AND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY ISRAEL. I ADDED, IF YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, WANT TO COME TO JERUSALEM AND PUT OUT THOSE TWO DEMANDS, YOU ARE ENTITLED TO BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW THEY WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO US. ON THESE TERMS, PRESIDENT SADAT ARRIVED IN JERUSALEM. EVERYBODY OF US KNEW HIS STAND. IN THE KNESSET HE MADE A SPEECH TO THE SAME EFFECT BUT I ANSWERED HIM AND AGAIN EXPLAINED OUR POSITION. NOW, WHAT DID WE DECIDE TO DO, BOTH IN JERUSALEM AND AT ISMAILIA. WE AGREED THAT WE HAVE DIFFERENCE OF OPINION AND WE AGREED TO START NEGOTIATIONS KNOWING THAT WE HAVE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. AND IT IS ABSOLUTELY NATURAL. IF YOU STUDY ALL THE NEGOTIATIONS TO CONCLUDE PEACE TREATIES AFTER THE FIRST WORLD WAR, AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR, IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD, YOU WILL SEE, AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL BEAR ME OUT. HE HIMSELF WAS INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS IN KOREA, AND ABOUT VIET NAM. ALL THE NEGOTIATIONS START FROM DIFFERENCE OF OPINION. THEREFORE, THAT WAS AND THAT IS THE HOPE. WE START FROM DIFFERENCE OF OPINION AND WE DO OUR BEST TO REACH AN AGREEMENT. THIS PRINCIPLE STANDS.

56. Q: MR. SECRETARY, WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT ON THE SAME POINT. DO YOU THINK THAT THE EGYPTIANS ARE PREPARED TO GIVE ON THESE DEMANDS.

57. VANCE: THERE ARE STILL DIFFERENCES ON VIEWS ON SOME OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED AND INsofar AS THEIR POSITION IS UNCLASSIFIED

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CONCERNED, I THINK IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR ME WHILE WE'RE DEEPLY INVOLVED IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS TO DISCLOSE WHAT THEIR POSITION IS.

58. Q: THANK YOU.
VANCE

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